

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed July 29, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Specification Objection

The specification has been objected to for containing various informalities. Specifically, the Office Action identifies that status of the related application needs to be updated.

In response to the objection, Applicant has removed the references to the related application given that that application has been abandoned and, therefore, is no longer properly citable in the present application. In view of these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification is not objectionable, and therefore respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-12 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ghannam, et al. ("Ghannam," U.S. Pat. No. 6,651,062). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

It is axiomatic that "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration." W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 1554, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983)(emphasis added). Therefore, every claimed feature of the claimed invention must be represented in the applied reference to constitute a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. §

102(e). In the present case, not every feature of the claimed invention is represented in the Ghannam reference. Applicant discusses the Ghannam reference in the following.

Ghannam discloses a method and apparatus for managing data for use by data applications. As is described by Ghannam, the disclosed system includes a data management system 210 that receives information from one or more data sources, processes the information according to policies, and stores the information in a data warehouse. Ghannam, column 4, lines 37-40. The data warehouse can then be “accessed by applications that perform analysis with the data.” Ghannam, column 4, lines 40-42. Accordingly, the Ghannam system merely collects and stores data which users can access, under their own volition, using an appropriate “application.” Example applications include SQL, ODBC, and COBRA. Ghannam, column 7, lines 42-44. As is noted in the Office Action, Ghannam further anticipates a graphical user interface for configuring a “network link report.” Ghannam, column 27, lines 15-28. Notably, however, that interface is not used to configure or schedule notifications or reports that are sent to subscribers. Finally, as for the “data sources,” Ghannam discloses “management servers, network entities or any other source of management data.” Ghannam, column 6, lines 29-30.

Applicant’s claim 1 provides as follows (emphasis added):

1. A method for reporting event data to requesting subscribers using a manufacturing repository for collecting event data that is connected to a subscriber profile system for storing information relating to subscribers and a production system for storing information relating to manufacturing, comprising:

gathering event data from a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the manufacturing repository, the event data relating to events that have occurred at the peripheral devices;

saving the event data to a database;
automatically notifying designated subscribers about logged events according to criteria indicated by subscriber profiles;
selectively generating subscription reports according to criteria indicated by the subscriber profiles; and
automatically sending the subscription report to designated subscribers according to criteria indicated by the subscriber profiles.

As an initial matter, Applicant notes that Ghannam does not disclose or suggest gathering event data from “peripheral devices”, as is required by claim 1. Instead, as is noted above, Ghannam only explicitly identifies gathering information from “management servers” and “network entities.” It logically follows that Ghannam further does not disclose or suggest gathering event data “relating to events that have occurred at the peripheral device”. Ghannam therefore fails to anticipate claim 1 for at least these reasons.

Applicant further notes that Ghannam does not disclose or suggest “automatically notifying designated subscribers about logged events according to criteria indicated by subscriber profiles”, as is also required by claim 1. First, the Ghannam system does not “automatically notify” users at all. Instead, as noted above, the Ghannam system only collects and stores information that users can access on their own accord using an appropriate application.

Second, Ghannam does not anticipate the concepts of “subscribers” or “subscriber profiles”. Applicant notes that those recitations comprise explicit limitations that must be accounted for. Given that Ghannam does not anticipate any subscribers or subscriber profiles, it logically follows that Ghannam also does not anticipate any “criteria” indicated by subscriber profiles.

In view of the fact that Ghannam does not anticipate subscriber profiles, it logically follows that Ghannam does not anticipate “selectively generating subscription reports according to criteria indicated by the subscriber profiles”, as is further required by claim 1. Given that Ghannam does not anticipate generating subscription reports, it then follows that Ghannam does not anticipate “automatically sending the subscription report to designated subscribers according to criteria indicated by the subscriber profiles”. Moreover, as noted above, Ghannam does not anticipate automatically sending anything to users.

Referring next to independent claim 17, Applicant notes that claim 17 comprises several limitations that, while different, are similar to limitations contained in independent claim 1. In view of this, Applicant submits that claim 17 is allowable at least for reasons similar to those discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Due to the many shortcomings of the Ghannam reference described in the foregoing, Applicant respectfully asserts that Ghannam does not anticipate Applicant’s claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 13-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ghannam in view of Bowman-Amuah (U.S. Pat. No. 6,571,282). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As is identified above in reference to independent claim 1, Ghannam does not teach several of Applicant’s explicit claim limitations. In that Bowman-Amuah does not remedy the deficiencies of the Ghannam reference, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13-16, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the Ghannam/Bowman-

Amuah combination for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable over Ghannam.

IV. Canceled Claim

As identified above, claim 4 has been canceled from the application through this Response without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to present this canceled claim, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequently.

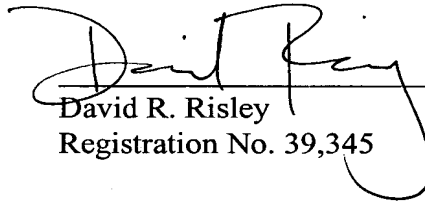
V. New Claims

As identified above, claims 18-20 have been added into the application through this Response. Applicant respectfully submits that these new claims describe an invention novel and unobvious in view of the prior art of record and, therefore, respectfully requests that these claims be held to be allowable.

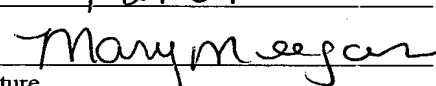
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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9-24-04

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